

PRODUCT SAFETY RECALLS

BMW Recalls 367,000 Vehicles

Description: BMW is recalling certain model year 2004-2010 5-series, model year 2004-2010 6-series, model year 2006-2010 M5, and model year 2007-2010 M6 vehicles. **Hazard:** The insulated bulkhead connector for the positive battery cable may have been incorrectly attached to the trunk floor panel, which can lead to a loosening of the bolt connection. As it loosens, an increase in electrical resistance at this cable connection is possible and could cause the cable connection to overheat. Overheating could lead to a fire, even while the vehicle is not in use. **Remedy:** BMW will notify owners, and dealers will inspect and secure the battery bolt cable connection as necessary, free of charge.

Toyota Recalls 680,000 Vehicles

Description: Toyota is recalling a little over 495,000 certain model year 2005-2009 Tacoma vehicles, manufactured from September 14, 2004, through August 29, 2008. Toyota is also recalling over 185,000 certain model year 2009 Camry vehicles manufactured from July 1, 2008, through February 28, 2009, and model year 2009-2011 Venza vehicles manufactured from October 20, 2008, through January 4, 2011. **Hazard:** *Tacoma Vehicles*—Steering wheel vibration may damage the spiral cable assembly that powers the driver’s air bag module, which may cause the driver’s side air bag not to deploy. *Camry & Venza Vehicles*—During assembly of the contact-type stop lamp switch, silicone grease may have come in contact with the surface of the switch which could cause contact resistance. If this occurs, warning lamps could illuminate, a no start condition could result, the shift lever may not shift from the “park” position, or the vehicle’s brake lights could become inoperative. **Remedy:** Toyota will notify owners, and dealers will replace either the Tacoma’s spiral cable assembly or the Camry/Venza’s stop lamp switch, free of charge.

Safety 1st Push ‘N Snap Cabinet Locks

Description: This recall involves Safety 1st Push ‘N Snap cabinet locks with model numbers 48391 and 48442. The locks are used to secure cabinets with two straps that wrap around the knobs or handles on a cabinet door. **Hazard:** Young children can disengage the cabinet locks, allowing access to cabinet contents. **Remedy:** Consumers should immediately remove the recalled locks from cabinets and contact DJG for a free replacement Push ‘N Snap lock.

Toy Truck Gifts sold at Kohl’s

Description: This recall involves Big Movers Super Car toy trucks that were gifts with the purchase of Big Movers t-shirts. The 4-inch long blue trucks have oversized tires and a flashing light on top and were sold with a yellow, red and blue logo on the hood.

Hazard: Connections in the toy trucks battery compartment can smolder or catch the trucks on fire, posing a fire and burn hazard to consumers. **Remedy:** Consumers should immediately take the toy trucks from children and remove the battery. Consumers can contact Happy Shirts for instructions on returning the truck for a refund.

Weeplay Kids Infant Bodysuits

Description: This recall involves H.W. Carter & Sons/ Carter’s Watch the Wear bodysuits and sleep ‘n play one-piece garments. “Carter’s Watch the Wear” is printed on the front of the package and on the inside neckline. The garments are pastel blue, pink and yellow. **Hazard:** The snaps can detach from the fabric of the garment, posing a choking hazard to infants and young children. **Remedy:** Consumers should immediately discontinue use of garments and contact Weeplay to receive free replacement garments.

Worthington Cylinders Wisconsin Gas Cylinders

Description: The cylinders contain propylene gas and are used for soldering, brazing, cutting, and welding. The cylinders are approximately 3” in diameter and 11” tall and are either yellow or black in color. **Hazard:** The seal on the cylinders can leak after torches or other fuel consuming equipment are disconnected from them, posing a fire hazard. **Remedy:** Unused cylinders: If the cylinder has never been connected to a torch or other device, do not use cylinder. Partially-used cylinder currently connected to torch or other device: Do not disconnect torch or other device. Take outdoors and ignite the torch and burn off entire contents of the cylinder. Partially-used cylinder NOT connected to a torch or other device: Take cylinder outdoors. Leak test top of the cylinder with soapy water. If bubbles develop, attach the torch. Ignite the torch and burn off entire contents of the cylinder.

AmerTac LED Night Lights

Description: Three models of AmerTac night lights are being recalled. The night lights are rectangular, about 2-3/16 inches high, 3-1/2 inches wide, and 1-1/4 inches deep. The front housings for each are either white or nickel colored plastic with four horizontal vents and a round light sensor above the top vent. **Hazard:** An electrical short circuit in the night light can cause it to overheat and smolder or melt, posing fire and burn hazards to consumers. **Remedy:** Consumers should stop using the recalled night lights, remove them from the wall sockets, and contact AmerTac for instructions on receiving a full refund.

The Dangers of Canned Air

Canned air is commonly used in offices to clean dust from equipment, such as computers and shredders. These products often are used without incident; however, lack of training in proper use can lead to flash fires and injuries, warns the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries.

Canned air is different from the air we breathe. The products are made of a gas that is compressed into a liquid and canned. The types of gases used vary, and some are dangerous when used improperly.

Some of the most common dangers include:

- Flammable ingredients.* When canned gas is tilted, the liquefied and highly flammable gas can be released into the air and onto surfaces it contacts. When a flammable atmosphere is created, flames, sparks, and electrical switches can ignite the concentrated gas, causing a flash fire.
- Frostbite.* The liquid inside canned air can cause frostbite when the skin is exposed to a steady stream. This can vary from an intense burning sensation to serious physical injuries such as skin cracking, and damage to muscles, blood vessels, and nerves.
- Asphyxiation and toxicity.* When high concentrations of the gas are released into a nonventilated area, oxygen deficiency and possible asphyxiation can occur. The effects of inhalation vary depending on the type of chemical used, as well as the intensity and duration of exposure.



Simple steps in the workplace can help keep workers safe from these dangers associated with canned air products. Washington L&I recommends the following measures:

- Find out who uses canned air and in what areas of the workplace it is used.
- Determine whether the areas are properly ventilated. If they are not, move use to an open and well-ventilated area.
- Check the contents of the canned air products in use at your workplace. If the product is flammable, switch to a nonflammable alternative.
- Consider whether the use of eye, face, and skin protection is needed when using canned air.
- Make sure all canned air users, and those in charge of purchasing, are aware of potential hazards associated with use of the products.

IT’S THE LAW!

ANSWERS TO LEGAL QUESTIONS

Question: Since I pay separate premiums for my PIP and UM coverage, can I recover under both coverages for the same damages if I am injured by an uninsured motorist?

Answer: No. Historically, because two premiums were paid, Texas courts allowed an injured consumer to collect both personal injury protection benefits and underinsured motorist benefits. The Texas Department of Insurance, however, has ruled that an insurance company, even though it collected a separate premium for each benefit, could offset uninsured and underinsured coverage in the amount that it paid in personal injury protection benefits.

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118 W. Fourth St. • Tyler, TX 75701-4000

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ATTORNEYS AT LAW
118 W. Fourth St. • Tyler, TX 75701-4000

903-597-6000

1-800-248-6000

www.robertslawfirm.com

The Dangers of Canned Air

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and how to

Product Safety Recalls

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Answers To Legal Questions

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Scan the Quick Response Code for
quick access to our mobile website.



Instructions: To read a QR code, you will need to download a QR code reader. Once you have a QR code reader installed, your Smartphone will utilize the phone's camera to scan in the codes.

Is Your Public Playground Safe?

Each year, more than 2,000,000 children go to U.S. hospital emergency rooms with injuries associated with playground equipment. Most injuries occur when a child falls from the equipment onto the ground.

Use this simple checklist, written by safety professionals, to help make sure your local community or school playground is a safe place to play.

Public Playground Safety Checklist

1. Make sure surfaces around playground equipment have at least 12 inches of wood chips, mulch, sand or pea gravel, or area mats made of safety-tested rubber or rubber-life materials.
2. Check that protective surfacing extends at least 6 feet in all directions from play equipment. For swings, be sure surfacing extends, in back and front, twice the height of the suspending bar.
3. Make sure play structures more than 30 inches high are spaced at least 9 feet apart.
4. Check for dangerous hardware, like open "S" hooks or protruding bolt ends.
5. Make sure spaces that could trap children, such as openings in guardrails or between ladder rungs, measure less than 3.5 inches or more than 9 inches.
6. Check for sharp points or edges in equipment.
7. Look out for tripping hazards, like exposed concrete footings, tree stumps, and rocks.
8. Make sure elevated surfaces, like platforms and ramps, have guardrails to prevent falls.
9. Check playgrounds regularly to see that equipment and surfacing are in good condition.
10. Carefully supervise children on playground to make sure they're safe.



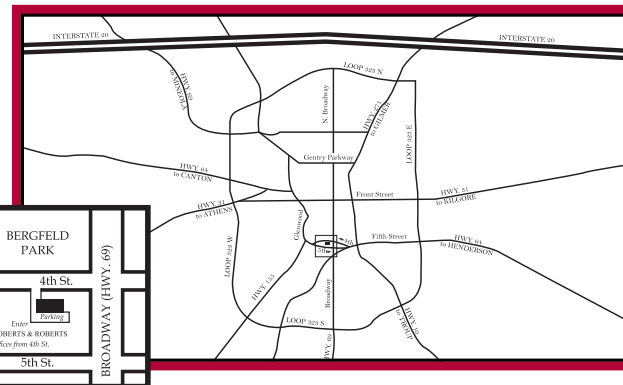
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If you know of someone who is injured, call Roberts & Roberts...

The call costs you nothing...
It could mean everything.

All calls are answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



The information in this newsletter is extracted from contemporary safety literature. The original sources are available upon request.